(Rs. in lakhs)

SI. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Tourist Reception Centre	15.00
2.	Upgradation of John Marshall House	10.00
3.	Upgradation/ Renovation of Tank	21.00
4.	Expansion of Travellers Lodge	73.45
5.	Providing tourist facilities at monuments	10.00
6.	Upgradation of Museum Building	183.00
7.	Upgradation of Cafeteria	11.50
8.	Upgradation of Travellers Lodge	1660
9.	Construction of Meditation Centre	42.50

Restructuring of ASI

1602. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to resurrect or restructure the Archaeological Survey of India; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Cable Car at Shravanabelgola

1603. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India in Delhi has objected to the setting up the cable car at Shravanabelgola in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to accord permission for setting up a cable car at Shravanabelgola in Karnataka to enable visiting pilgrims witness the Mahamasthakabhisheka; and

(d) what is the present status of the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The proposal for setting up of a cable car at Shravanabelgola in Karnataka has been objected to by the Archaeological Survey of India on the grounds that its operation is bound to cause vibration which may not only threaten the structural stability of the hill and the monument but also affect the view and the ambience of the site. As such ASI has not accorded permission to the requests of the Government of Karnataka.

Protection of monuments

1604. SHRI S. M. LAUAN BASHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officially protected monuments presently in the country;

(b) the number of each of them which have been declared World Heritage Sites;

(c) whether Government are taking special steps to upgrade the areas around all World Heritage Sites;

(d) the fund spent in such upgradation, protection and beautification of all World Heritage Sites in 2004-05; and

(e) the details of places where the funds were spent in the last fiscal year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) There are 3667 Centrally protected monuments in the country.

(b) Out of 3667 Centrally protected monuments, 18 monuments have been declared as World Heritage Sites.

(c) to (e) All efforts are being made to conserve and preserve the World Heritage Sites in the best possible manner and to upgrade their environment. Tourist amenities like toilets, drinking water facilities, ramps and wheel chairs for the disabled visitors have been provided at the World Heritage Sites. Besides, lawns and gardens have been developed wherever possible. ASI has also taken a programme for preparation of integrated site management plans for the World Heritage Sites. The expenditure incurred during 2004-05 on each of the World Heritage Sites towards structural conservation chemical preservation and environmental development is given in the enclosed Statement.